

**TOPIC: COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY – GLOBAL CAMPUS
DEGREE PROGRAMS**

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I. SUMMARY

This agenda item requests approval of Colorado State University – Global Campus’ (CSU-Global’s) degree programs. The Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) previously approved CSU-Global programs under the auspices of CSU-Fort Collins and CSU-Pueblo. CSU-Global has since received statutory authority to operate as an independent campus with its own role and mission. (Re)approval of the programs is necessary in order for CSU-Global to achieve independent institutional accreditation.

II. BACKGROUND

Colorado State University – Global Campus (CSU-Global) is currently offering seven degree programs; four at the undergraduate level and three at the master level. The CCHE approved these undergraduate and graduate programs in 2009 under the accreditation of CSU-Pueblo and CSU-Fort Collins, respectively. CSU-Global’s statutory role and mission was signed into law during the 2009 legislative session.

In December 2008, The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (HLC), the regional accreditation agency for Colorado, approved the offering of CSU-Global degree programs under the extended accreditation of CSU-Fort Collins and CSU-Pueblo. At about the same time, CSU-Global began the process of seeking independent institutional accreditation from HLC. To complete the final step in the affiliation process that HLC has set forth, CSU-Global must have “students enrolled in *its* degree programs before achieving candidacy or have graduated students from *its* degree programs before achieving accreditation.” (Emphasis added)

The CSU Board of Governors is requesting this role and mission review of Colorado State University – Global Campus’ degree programs as approved by the Board of Governors. For institutions operating under a performance contract, the review determines the program’s consistency with the institution’s statutory role and mission. The programs to be reviewed are:

- Baccalaureate Degree in Applied Social Sciences
- Baccalaureate Degree in Organizational Leadership
- Baccalaureate Degree in Business Management
- Baccalaureate Degree in Public Management
- Master of Science Degree in Management
- Master of Science Degree in Teaching and Learning
- Master of Science Degree in Organizational Leadership

This request is being made to ensure that CSU-Global Campus can meet the eligibility requirements for separate accreditation by HLC. At its June 23, 2010 meeting, the CSU Board of Governors passed a resolution expressing continued support of CSU-Global Campus and the process for seeking independent accreditation.

ROLE AND MISSION:

There is hereby established an online university to be known as Colorado state university – global campus. The university shall be under the general control and supervision of the board of governors of the Colorado state university system. Colorado state university – global campus shall be a baccalaureate and graduate online university with the mission in Colorado of offering upper division baccalaureate degree-completion programs for nontraditional students in partnership with the Colorado community college system and selected master-level graduate programs. The university shall comply with all applicable state statutes, rules and regulations. C.R.S. 23-30-124

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Staff has reviewed the programs for fit with role and mission and finds the degree programs to be consistent with CSU-GC's statutory role and mission as offering baccalaureate degree-completion for non-traditional students and selected masters-level graduate programs.

Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes 23-5-129 (6)(b), Department staff find that the proposed program fits the centrality of the institution's statutory role and mission.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission approve Colorado State University – Global Campus' degree programs predicated on receiving affirmation from HLC as a separate (from CSU-Ft. Collins and CSU-Pueblo) campus. If such HLC approval is not provided the degree programs will revert back under the appropriate campus.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute and policy are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-5-129 (6)(b)